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SUPERSOCCER

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

Sharks & Demons Cup Final

Paul Carter Poster

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FRONT COVER: Saints' Vince Savoca and Macarthur Rams' David Reid.
ABOVE: Saints' Joe Ellul get the ball ahead of Macarthur's Warren Hayward.

Editorial

So its now down to two - Sutherland Sharks and the Blacktown City Demons to meet in the NSW Soccer Federation's Pre-Season Cup final at the Gabbie Stadium on Sunday.

Form going into the final suggests a torrid affair with both sides itching to get their hands on the first piece of silverware to be decided this season.

The Demons scrapped into the final in somewhat controversial circumstances with skipper Steve Berry breaking the deadlock against Central Coast deep into injury time last weekend.

There was a question mark whether Berry was on side when he slotted the ball past Coasties' goalkeeper David Fitzsimmons.

Sadly for the lads from the Coast , who needed only a draw to qualify for the final, the goal was allowed to stand.

In the southern group, the Sharks earned the right for a spot in the final after Macarthur Rams put paid to their nearest rivals St George.

The Rams, down a Matthew O'Shea goal after just six minutes, rallied to hit three past the Saints' defence, suggesting the lads from Sydney's south west will prove a real headache to the rest of the competition as the season unfolds.

Peter Terry's Shark pack clearly had their minds on the Cup final as Canterbury spoiled their day with a 1-0 win.

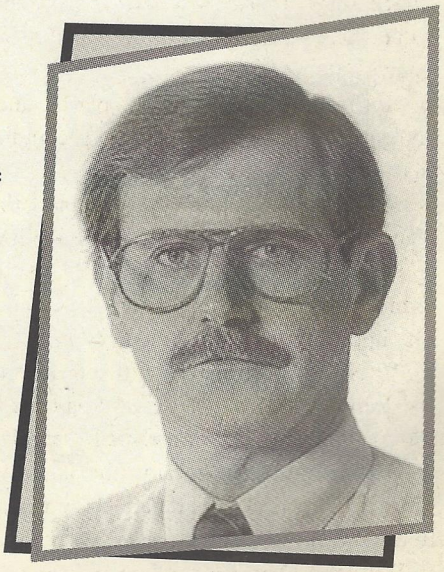
The final is shaping up as a keenly fought chess game with the Sharks' boasting a deadly finishing attack up against a Demon defensive wall marshalled by Jeff Doyle.

Looking elsewhere, Joe Watson's Eastern Suburbs were made to work hard for full points in their Division One encounter against newly promoted Greystanes at Wentworth Park.

The Tricolours were unlucky not to go one-up early in the opening term, only to be denied by the woodwork.

In the end a much relieved Watson was pleased to see Grant Lee's effort on goal rewarded.

Clearly on what I saw, Greystanes will trouble plenty of sides as they adjust to the quicker tempo of the game.

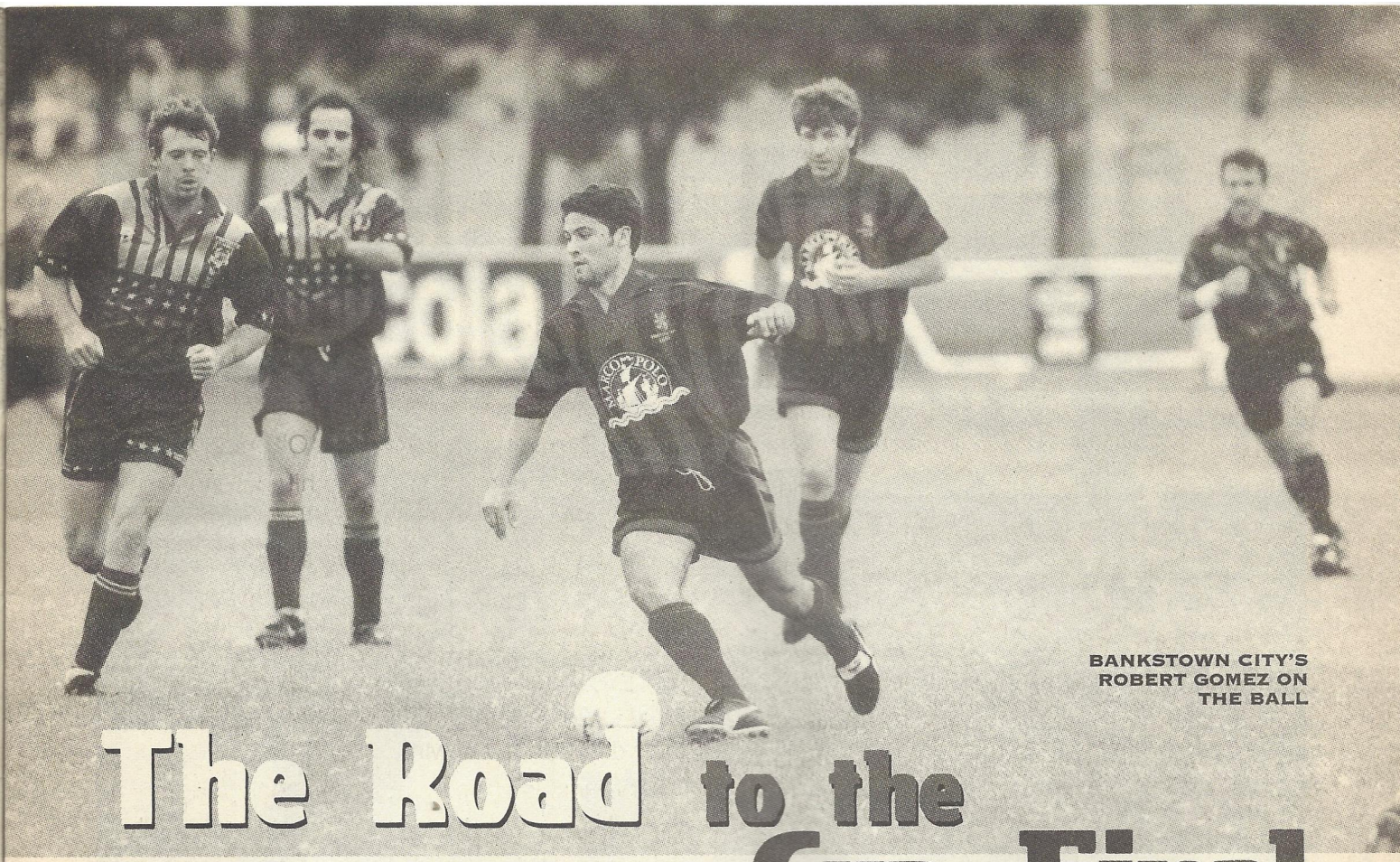


PETER KOGOY
Editor

SOCCER NSW, SPECIAL PROJECTS DIVISION is organising a package tour to Malaysia and Japan for U12 - U16 boys and girls teams.

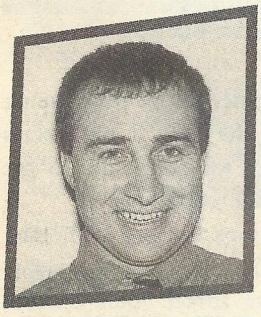
The tour would be during the September/October school holidays, approximate cost $2100 - $2400 per person which includes air-fares, hotel accommodation, sightseeing in Malaysia and Japan (Disneyland), transfers etc.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE SPECIAL PROJECTS DIVISION ON (02) 9629 1800.



BANKSTOWN CITY'S ROBERT GOMEZ ON THE BALL

The Road to the Cup Final



DAVE COOPER LOOKS AT ROUND 6

BERRY LEADS BY EXAMPLE

Blacktown City Demons captain Steve Berry showed his teammates that the game isn't over to the final whistle, with a 93rd minute winner over a luckless Central Coast at Melita Stadium.

The win meant the Demons now go through to the Pre-Season Cup final this week at the Gabbie Stadium, while the Coasties will lament on the one that got away.

Not only were the Coasties players and supporters gutted by the result but they couldn't believe that Berry was not called offside as he met an inch perfect cross from Damon Langan with a neatly glanced header past an exposed David Fitzsimmons.

Coasties coach Allan Bourke said of the goal: "I didn't have a good view from my position but my first impressions were that he was off.

"It is an unfortunate way to go out but looking at the game we had our chances to win the game and didn't take them, so we cannot really complain," he added.

Despite the 1-0 scoreline the game was an entertaining affair with both sides in an attacking frame of mind especially in the second half as the play went from end to end.

With the Demons needing to win to go through it was expected that they would come out firing but it was the Coasties that were the more impressive going forward.

Peter Preston, Coasties new signing from Illawarra, was impressive down the right side and it was from a good run from him that led to a corner and the Coasties first chance on goal. From the corner the ball was cleared to Ben Lovie on the edge of the box who hit a fierce shot which cannoned against the crossbar, rebounding to Paul Roberts whose shot went inches past the far post.

A minute before the break a well worked move between Matthew Lowe, Craig Thompson and Roberts saw the latter get free in the box and his lobbed shot flew over Fernando Greco but hit the top of the crossbar.

A more determined Blacktown came out in the second half and Fitzsimmons pulled off the first of many great saves, keeping out Ivo De Jesus's strong header.

De Jesus playing up front in Stuart Cleary and Sarkis Boudaher's absence was proving very elusive and just missed with two long range efforts.

Fitzsimmons then produced a double save, the first an outstanding save from a Berry header and then blocked De Jesus's shot from the rebound before the ball was scrambled away.

Shane Knight should have wrapped up the match soon

"It is an unfortunate way to go out but looking at the game we had our chances to win the game and didn't take them, so we cannot really complain,"

MACARTHUR'S DAVID REID (LEFT) CELEBRATES AFTER SCORING HIS SIDES SECOND GOAL AGAINST ST. GEORGE

after when he bulldozed his way through the defence but with only Greco to beat he stumbled over the ball allowing Greco to save at his feet.

Greco then pulled off a great save to deny a delightful curling shot from Lowe, as both sides pressed forward looking for the winner.

It seemed the Coasties were headed for their first Super league final, when Berry's 93rd minute goal sealed an unlikely final spot for the Demons.

Blacktown's coach Bob Daley said of the match, "We battled hard all day and got the lucky break at the death. It wasn't our best performance but we at least showed we are going to hard to beat this year even when we are a few players down."

"It wasn't our best performance but we at least showed we are going to hard to beat this year even when we are a few players down."

"There is a tremendous spirit in the team and our last two games have shown that we are team that will play right till the end. I thought Jeff Doyle was superb, while young Greg McKittrick showed he is a player of the future."

In what was a bad day for the Coasties, Matthew Heighway looks like he will be out for sometime after coming off with a suspected broken leg.

"I wasn't even going to play him today because he was carrying an injury but Paul Roberts was out on his feet so Matty went on. He thinks it is broken however we will wait to see what the doctors say but it does not look good," Bourke said despondently.

EAGLES SHARE THE POINTS

Parramatta Eagles and Bonnyrigg White Eagles shared the points in a fairly lacklustre affair at Melita Stadium.

With both sides out of the running for a place in the final, it was always going to tough for both sides to get motivated for the game.

Parramatta took the lead in the first half through Geoff Gunning with former Parramatta striker John Cannuli equalising for Bonnyrigg in the second half.

The other game between Sydney United and Adamstown Rosebud was called off.

RAMS SHOW TRUE COLOURS

Macarthur Rams showed their true colours with a comprehensive 3-1 victory over St. George Saints at Seymour Shaw Park.

Three second half goals secured the Rams first proper victory of the Pre-Season Cup and denied the Saints a faint hope of securing the Southern Group section of the competition.

The win actually secured the Rams second spot in the Southern Group behind Sutherland, moving ahead of St.

George by a point.

The game got off to a lively opening with Macarthur's Tony Telisman going close in the 5th minute and the St. George taking the lead a minute later. Daniel Totaro nipped to steal the ball away from David Hayes before pushing to a free Matthew O'Shea and guided his shot inside the far post from close range.

Saints keeper Jose Bello Amigo made a great save several minutes later to deny Rod Penna and then again anticipating well to thwart Adrian Macerola.

The Rams best chance of the half fell to Shane Rayner in the 35th minute, getting a free header to Eddie Clune's cross but he could not keep it down.

Macarthur though were more fired up after the break and after mounting pressure Tony Telisman was able to pounce from close range after a goal-mouth scramble.

However the turning point came midway through the half when Macarthur scored twice in several minutes to knock the fight out of St. George.

David Reid's thunderbolt from 25 yards left Bello Amigo diving at thin air and then Clune's volley from almost exactly the same position gave him no chance.

BOURKE EARNS DRAW

Paul Bourke scored a screamer from 30 yards out to give Leichhardt Tigers a share of the points with Bankstown City Lions.

Bankstown took the lead in the 25th minute through Macedonian import Bobby Zafirov but constant pressure by Leichhardt early in the second half paid off for the Tigers, with Bourke drilling an unstoppable shot past Tony Kostadinovski.

SHARKS BEATEN BY BERRIES

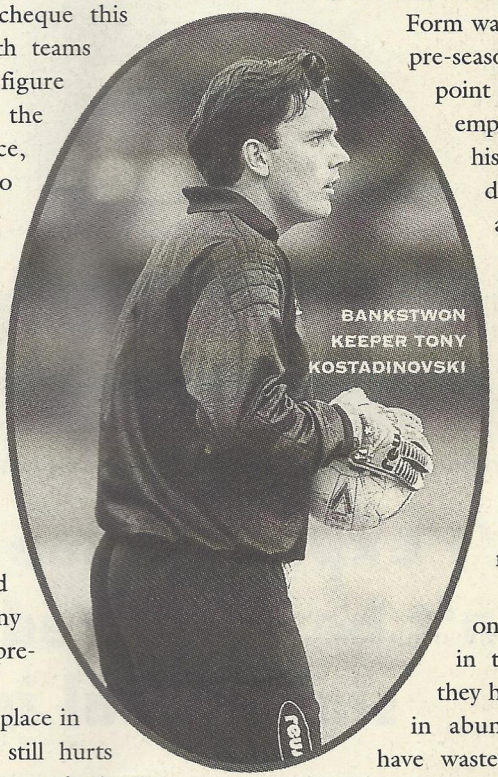
Sutherland Sharks progressed through to the final of the Pre-Season Cup despite losing to Canterbury Marrickville in their final preliminary game.

The Berries finished 1-0 winners, fighting off a strong second half fight-back by Sutherland.

Angelo Kotsopoulos scored the winning goal after 26 minutes.

PRE-SEASON CUP FINAL

Two of the favoured teams for the Pre-Season Cup will battle it out for the $9,000 winners cheque this Sunday. With both teams expected to figure prominently in the premiership race, they will be out to gain a slight psychological edge with victory here. For Sutherland especially this game means a great deal as they were mightily aggrieved to have played so well throughout 1996 and scarcely get any reward (did win premiership).



BANKSTWON KEEPER TONY KOSTADINOVSKI

Not winning a place in the one-off final still hurts with some players and victory here will go someway to easing their hurt.

For Blacktown, to make the final is a bonus as they were starting with virtually a whole new squad and hopeful but not totally convinced of getting to the final. In fact you could say they left it till the last minute to get there.

FORM

The Sharks have looked a class above every other team in the Southern Group. The fact that most of the team from last season is still there helps tremendously and team unity was certainly evident from the very first game.

Have looked in control of most games despite losing the last game to Canterbury which saw a number of players rested for the final. Defence has again being very solid despite not having a regular keeper for the last two games. In attack they might not be the most imaginative but they will persist all day and generally come away with a couple of goals per match.

Blacktown on the other hand went through undefeated finishing a point ahead of Central Coast. Went through to the final courtesy of a 93rd minute goal by Steve Berry against the Coasties in the final match.

Form was indifferent over pre-season but the one point coach Bob Daley emphasised was that his team would be difficult to beat and that was proved very correct. Were also missing five regular first team members against the Coasties, so their effort was made even more remarkable.

Defensively are one of the strongest in the league, while they have attacking flair in abundance but they have wasted many chances and need to rectify this if they are to beat Sutherland.

STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES

Sutherland: Strength is obviously their team unity. They will play as a team and for one another. They know each other's style and this is what makes them a very formidable side.

A very solid defence is also a key. They rarely concede more than two goals a game. The Grant Bard and Anthony Versi partnership up front has proved very good so far and they will torment the Demons defence all day.

Weaknesses are hard to find but if they don't secure the services of Keith Warren it could prove a problem. Paul Henderson might be forced to play

MACARTHUR'S JOSHUA KASUN AND ST. GEORGE'S RUBEN NASSER BATTLE FOR POSSESSION

"Don't expect to see too many goals and don't be surprised if there is only a single goal in the game"

with an injured hand or they will stick with a young 17 year old with no first grade experience. Lack of depth on the bench could hurt them later in the match.

Blacktown's defence is obviously their biggest asset.

Is very experienced and hard to break down.

They also have the talent to burn all over the park and are very effective on the break. Have two very quick wide men in Dean Harding and Jeff Suzor and with two big men up front in Stuart Cleary and Jay Anderson the high balls from wide out will be raining in.

The Demons biggest weakness is their lack of cohesion at times, which should be expected. With many new players you are going to get this for a while but they are also not able to get the same side on the park two weeks in a row which does not help. Ivo De Jesus loss is a big blow for Blacktown.

It was he who started the ball rolling for Blacktown in the second half last week and was unlucky not to have had a goal or two.

PROGNOSIS

Matches between these two sides in recent times have always been close and it is hard to see this game being any different.

The fact it is a final will mean it is more likely to be an extremely tight game with neither side giving an inch.

Don't expect to see too many goals and don't be surprised if there is only a single goal in the game.

Sutherland will be at full strength expect for the goalkeeping position while Blacktown will miss De Jesus and Steve Cutler while Sarkis Boudaher is still not a certainty to play after injuring his leg two weeks ago.

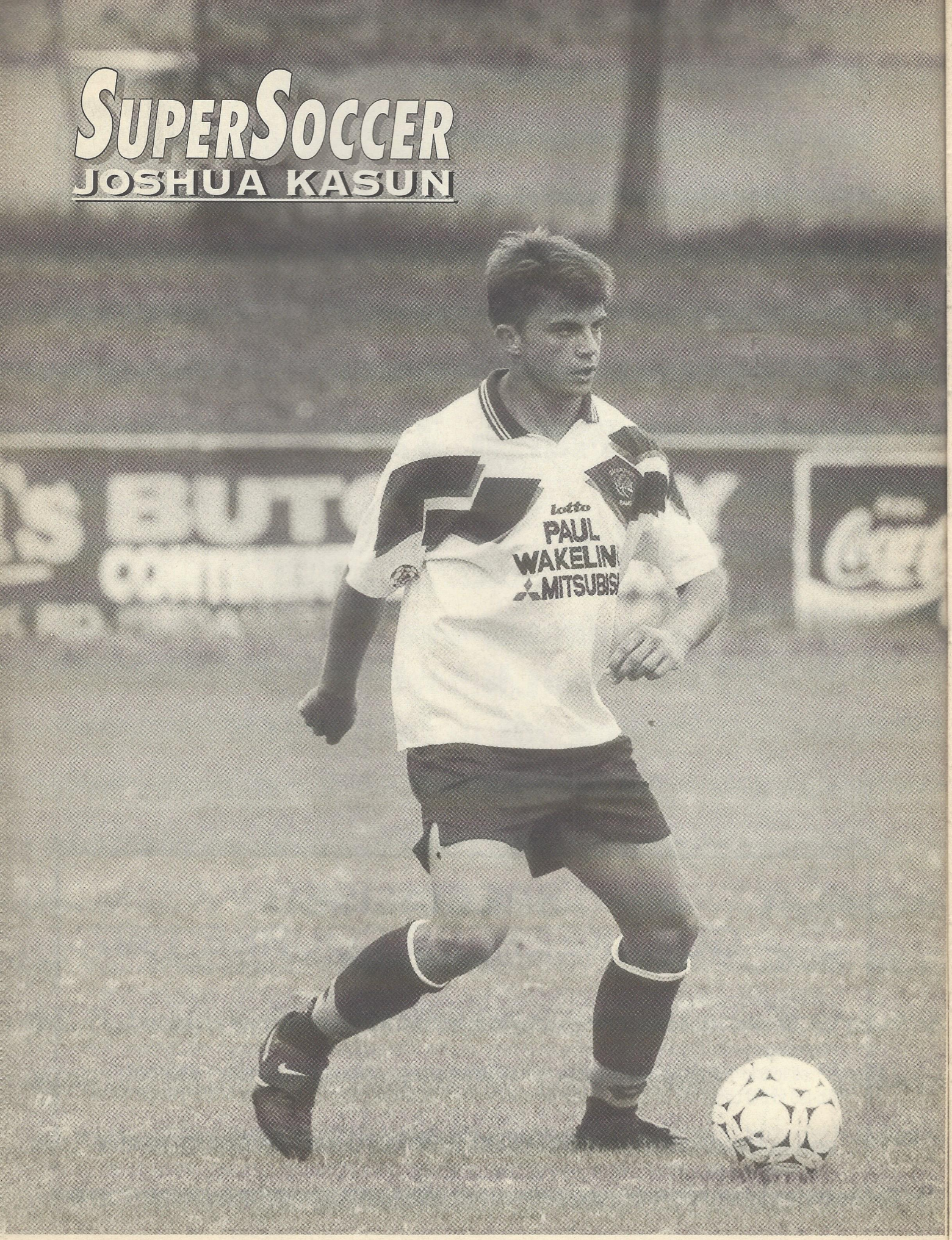
Parramatta, while Sarkis Boudaher is doubtful due to injury. For both sides the best avenue in attack should be down the flanks as down the middle both sides are virtually impregnable.

Sutherland's desire to win could see them sneak home but as Blacktown showed in their last two matches they never give up and they will also get home ground advantage which might be enough to secure a win.

The game will be preceded by an U18 fixture kicking off at 1pm and the U21's fixture at 3pm between the same two teams.

SuperSoccer

JOSHUA KASUN



pre-season cup FINAL

Super League

UNDER 18's s kick-off at 1pm

Kick Off 5.00pm

UNDER 21's s kick-off at 3pm

Blacktown City Demons *Vs* Sutherland Sharks

Gabbie Stadium
Sunday March 16th

Team Colours
Black Shirts
Black Shorts
Black Socks

Coach - Bob Daley

Fernando Greco - 1
Jeff Doyle - 2
Steve Hickman - 3
Damon Langan - 4
Damien Foxe - 5
Jeff Suzor - 6
Ivo De Jesus - 7
Steve Berry - 8
Stuart Cleary - 9
Sarkis Boudaher - 10
Dean Harding - 11
Jay Anderson - 12
Glen Geppart - 13
Scott Ashton - 14
Goran Vulic - 15
Steve Cutler - 16
David Morgans - 20

1 - Paul Henderson - 20
2 - Paul Donnelly
3 - Greg Lerond
4 - Tony Brandtman
5 - Scott Henderson
6 - Tony Cabassi
7 - Shane Clinch
8 - David Thomas
9 - Grant Bard
10 - Anthony Versi
11 - Harry Christodoulou
12 - Stewart Porter
13 - Keegan Pillay
14 - Sam Mozsny
15 - Pablo Morales
16 - Justin McLeay

Team Colours
White Shirts
Black Shorts
Blue Socks

Coach - Peter Terry

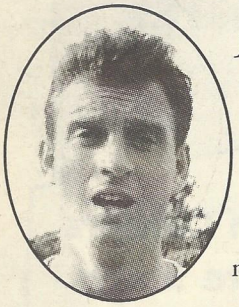
BLACKTOWN CITY DEMONS

SUTHERLAND SHIRE

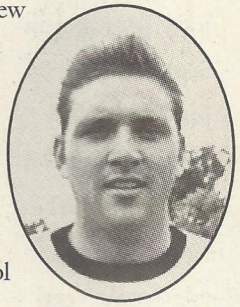
FINAL PLAYER PROFILES

BLACKTOWN CITY

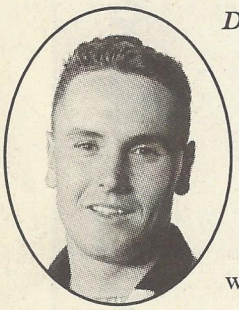
Fernando Greco - Very reliable keeper who transferred from Parramatta to the Demons. Played on loan with Warringah last season and had a great year. Very commanding in the box and has good anticipation especially in the air.



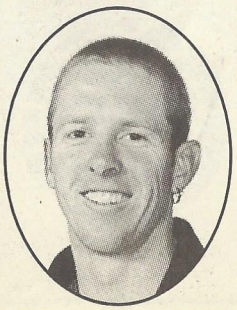
Jeff Doyle - very experienced defender who has played in the NSL. With a young defence around him he is expected to lead by example. Coach, Bob Daley voted him best for his side last week and another performance will be needed this week.



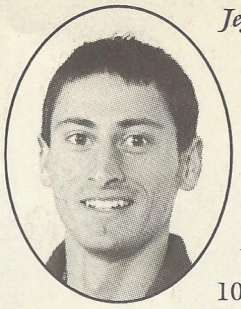
Steve Hickman - Another of the new boys. Has come down from Newcastle after failing to find a regular spot with the Breakers. Was part of the Dolphins triumph two seasons ago and will be one of the markers for the Demons. Is quite a fiery character on the field but will need to keep his cool against the Sharks.



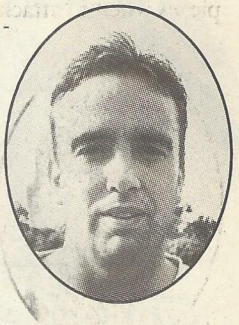
Damon Langan - seems to have recovered from the injuries that have plagued him for several seasons. For someone who is still relatively young, he has a great deal of experience and is a key player for the Demons. Set up Berry's winner last week.



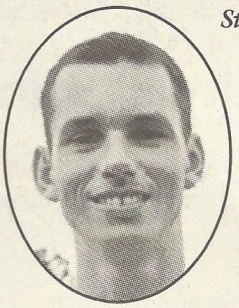
Damien Foxe - Tough and rugged defender, whose no frills approach does not make him a standout player but one that does his job and usually very effectively. Will probably get a tagging role and will make them earn their money.



Jeff Suzor - bought across from Bonnyrigg as a key attacking weapon. Has not had the early impact but is a threat whenever going forward.

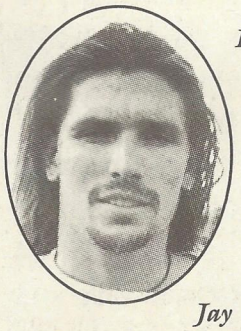


Steve Berry - will give you 100% every game and always seems to pop up at the right time to score goals for his side. Is everywhere on the park and leads by example.

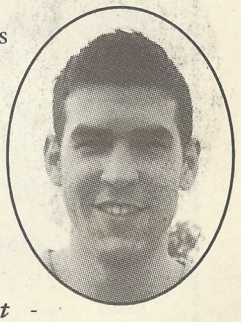


Stuart Cleary - the lanky striker has a knack of getting into good goalscoring positions but his finishing has let him down so far this season. Is good in the air and will be a torment for most defences at set pieces.

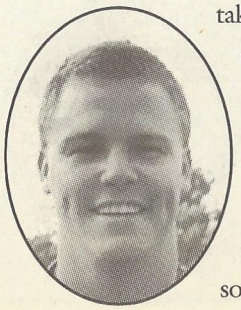
Sarkis Boudaher - is not a certainty to play after suffering a leg injury against Parramatta. If he does play will probably start on the bench. Can play either up front or in midfield and knows how to score a goal.



Dean Harding - speedy wingman who came across from Warringah. Can also play up front but Daley has used him wide so far this season. Can be very dangerous and can put the ball away when in front of goals.

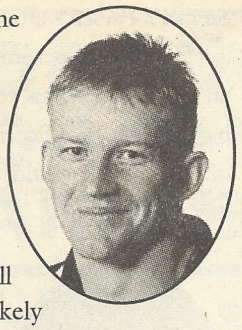


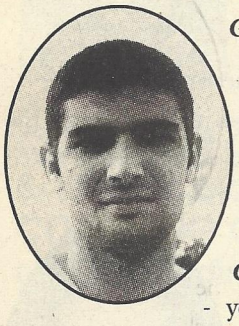
Jay Anderson - has started the season in fine fashion netting three goals so far. Is a tall skilful player who likes to take on defenders.



Glen Geppert - will start on the bench as he has for every game so far. One of the younger brigade at the club and is a solid defender.

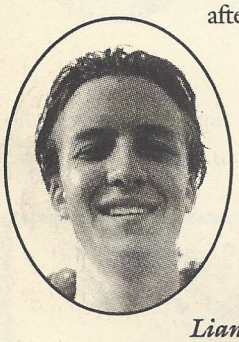
Scott Ashton - back at the club after one season with Parramatta. Key defensive player and also likes to join the attack if given an opportunity. Very good in the air and will pose problems at set pieces when in attack.





Goran Vulic - will more than likely start on the bench this weekend. Another tall defender whose best position is as a marker. Will do a job if required.

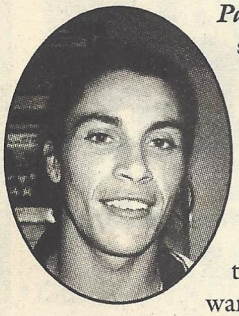
Greg McKittrick - young defender who impressed his coach immensely last weekend. Will probably find himself back on the bench though with regular first teamers Foxe and Hickman back on duty after suspension.



Luke O'Connell - could win a place on the bench if Boudaher is declared unfit as expected. Has worked his way up through juniors and is highly regarded as a future !st team Demon.

Liam Daley - young goalkeeper replacing David Morgans on the bench, who has a hand injury.

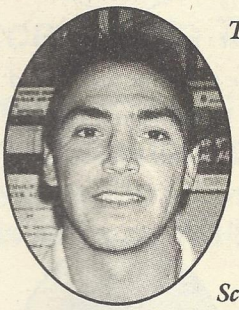
SUTHERLAND SHARKS



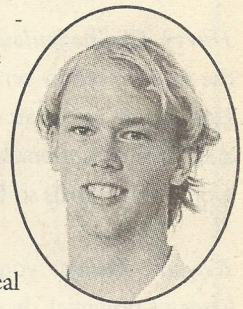
Paul Henderson - despite a hand injury suffered in the game against Leichhardt, the young keeper is confident he can do the job for the team. Has his chance to cement a place in the first team with Scott Preston out and with Keith Warren a target of the Sharks, will want to play as early as possible.

Paul Donnelly - no nonsense defender who gets his job quietly but effectively. Is also useful as an overlapping defender and likes to get forward at every opportunity.

Greg Lerond - can play anywhere down the left side. Gets forward in an overlapping role very well and his experience will be vital for the Sharks. Has scored a couple of goals already and will need to be watched carefully by the Demons.

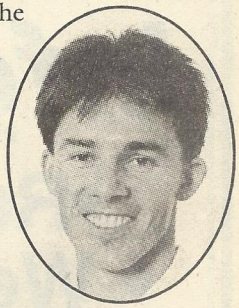


Tony Brandtman - striker turned defender and has accustomed to the role very well over the past couple of years. Not a flashy player but get the job done for his team.

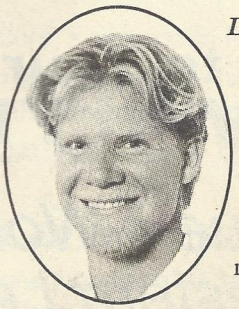


Scott Henderson - would have to be one of the best markers going around in Super League at the moment. Is very strong in the air and will no doubt be expected to look after Stuart Cleary.

Tony Cabassi - a real workhorse and is a vital man in attack. His speed down the right flank could pose problems for the Demons and has a good goalscoring record for a midfielder as well.



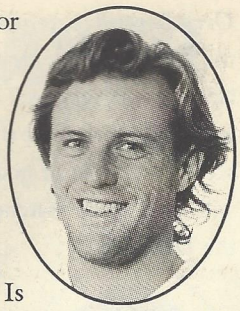
Shane Clinch - the most experienced player in the side and captain. His combination with Lerond down the left will also be important. If they fire Sutherland will be hard to beat. Used more in defensive role these down to allow Lerond to push forward more.



David Thomas - midfield general. Works very hard in the middle of the park both in attack and defence. His battle with Steve Berry will be worth watching. Creates his share of goals but he probably does not score as many as he should.

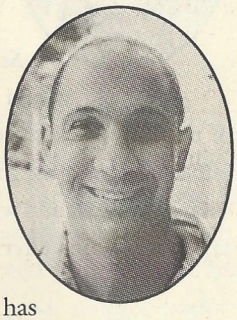
Grant Bard - last season's Player of the Year and the Sharks trump card. Is a very versatile player and holds the ball up

exceptionally well to create chances for his teammates. Is always looking to get involved and is prepared to do the hard work for his team.



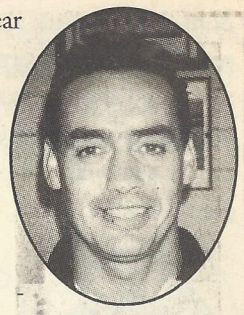
Anthony Versi - a very similar player to Bard. Is playing against his old club for the first time and would dearly like to beat them. Is tough and rugged and he and Bard seem to have formed a good combination already.

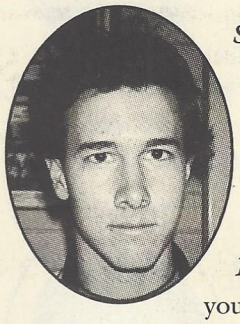
Harry Christodoulou - has started the season off in sensational style. Has linked up in attack with Bard and Versi exceptionally well and has scored three goals so far.



Keegan Pillay - young striker who has loads of potential. Is quick and has good skills. Peter Terry rates him highly but still has much to learn at this level.

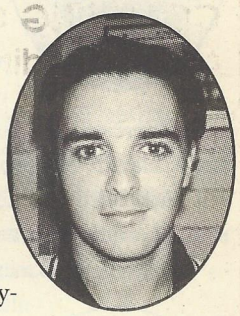
Stewart Porter - after such a good year last season it was a surprise to see him take a back seat this year. Is currently trying to regain fitness and coming off the bench could prove dangerous.

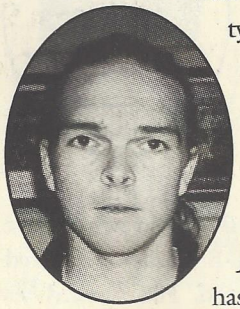




Sam Mozsny - another Sutherland junior who has risen through the ranks. Has played well when called upon by Peter Terry.

Pablo Morales - young defender with loads of ability. Only small but not afraid to mix it with the bigger players.





Justin McLeay - nippy midfielder who has an eye for goal as well.

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- St Johns Park, Blaxland (in conjunction with Nepean District Soccer Football Assoc.)
- Jellicoe Park, Pagewood (in conjunction with Pagewood Soccer Club)
- Crest of Bankstown • Melita Stadium
- Westfields High School, Hamilton Road, Fairfield West
- BHP Stadium, Waples Road, Unanderra
- Manly Soccer Association (Venue TBA) • Polton Park, Sth Hurstville

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Teenage Revolution

BY IAN MARIOTT

CANTERBURY ASSOCIATION

1996: 5th, U13 10th, U14 4th, U15 champions, U16 11th. If Canterbury can come up with a strong under 13 side and improve their 14s then they are a big chance to find themselves in Div 1 next year. The 15s and 16s are semi final certainities.

HILLS UNITED

1996: 6th, U13 5th, U14 5th, U15 8th, U16 6th. Good solid performance from one of the younger youth league clubs and has a bright future. Wouldn't surprise to see them moving up a division at the end of the season. The 14s and 15s are definite semi final chances.

ST JOHNS PARK

1996: 7th, U13 premiers, U14 6th, U15 6th, U16 12th. The under 16s kept the Saints down in '96. The under 14s are favourites for the title this season and looking to go one better.

RYDE CITY

1996: 8th, U13 9th, U14 11th, U15 3rd, U16 13th. Will be looking for an improved performance all round this season and hoping that the 16s can go further. They certainly have a chance but will find the competition tough.

MT DRUITT TOWN

1996: 9th, U13 12th, U14 10th, U15 7th, U16 5th. Disappointing season in 1996 for Mt Druitt who will be expecting an improvement. Certainly capable of much better. Under 16s look to be best chance for the semi finals at this stage.

HAWKESBURY CITY

1996: 11th, U13 3rd, U14 9th, U15 5th, U16 14th. The 16s hurt Hawkesbury, but look to have built up in the off-season and will be looking for a top five finish. The 14s and new-look 16s look strong chances, with the younger age group biggest threat to St Johns Park. Definitely a club of the future.

MACQUARIE SPORTS

1996: 12th, U13 11th, U14 12th, U15 10th, U16 8th. A club which should be getting much better results than it it is considering there is little competition for players. Expecting a better season in 1997 after a string of disappointing results in 1996.

SPRINGWOOD

1996: 13th, U13 13th, U14 13th, U15 14th, U16 9th. The boys from the mountains will be trying to forget last season as quickly as possible. It was nothing short of a disaster and could be struggling for a number of years to come.

SOCCER NSW, SPECIAL PROJECTS DIVISION is organising a package tour to Malaysia and Japan for U12 - U16 boys and girls teams.

The tour would be during the September/October school holidays, approximate cost $2100 - $2400 per person which includes airfares, hotel accommodation, sightseeing in Malaysia and Japan (Disneyland), transfers etc.

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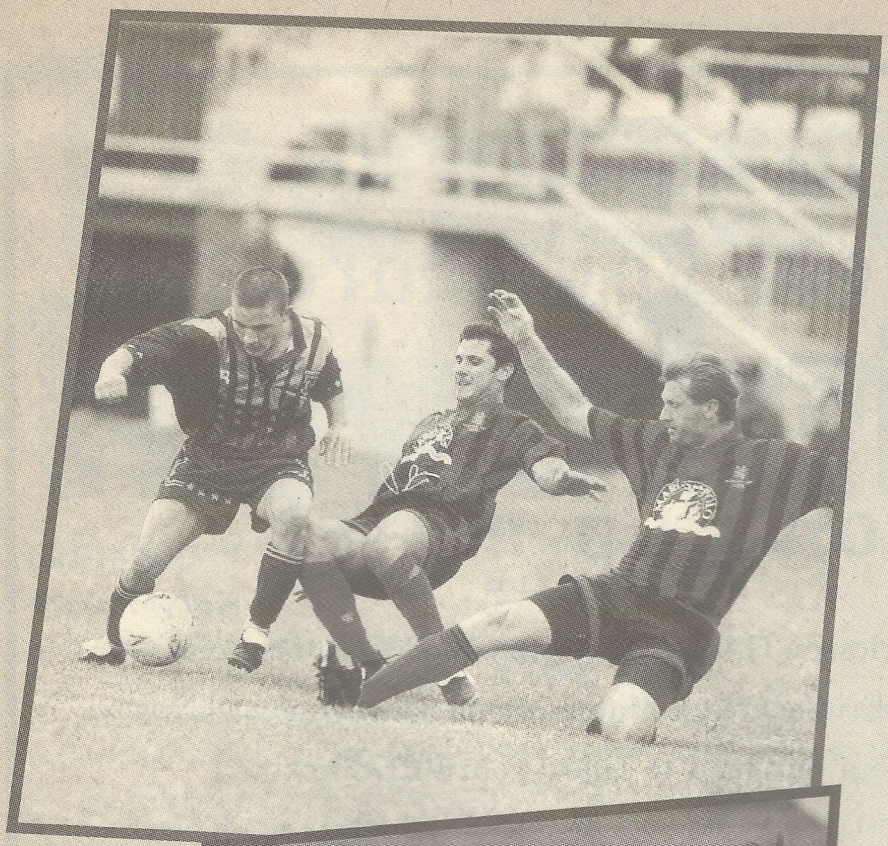
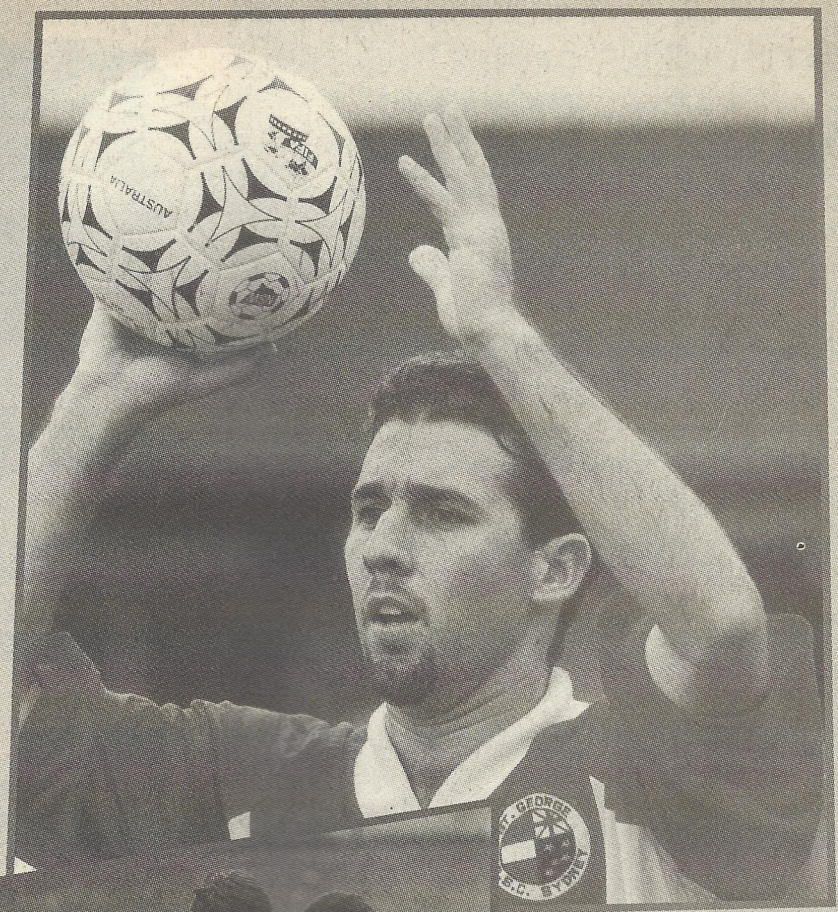


Above: Action from the Leichhardt – Bankstown clash

Right: Leichhardt striker John Buonavoglia attempts to steal the ball away from Bankstown's Ray Younis

SuperSoccer



ABOVE: SAINTS NICK ALIDENES AND MACARTHUR'S SHANE RAYNER

ABOVE: NICK ALIDENES FROM ST GEORGE SHIELDS BALL AWAY FROM MACARTHUR'S DAVID REID

ABOVE: ST. GEORGE DEFENDER STEPHEN SCOTTI

RIGHT: LEICHHARDT TIGER'S MARTIN DRIENE

NEXT WEEKS GAMES
ROUND EIGHT

SATURDAY 22ND MARCH

West Wanderers vs Illawarra Lions	Hadjuk Stadium	3pm
Stanmore Hawks vs Warringah Dolphins	Arlington Oval	3pm

SUNDAY 23RD MARCH

Rockdale City Suns vs Hurst. City Minotaurs	R. Ilinden Sports C.	3pm
Mt. Pritchard vs Eastern Suburbs	Cook Park (Mt Pritchard)	3pm
Hills United vs Greystanes	Fred Caterson Res.	3pm
Ryde City vs Fairfield Bulls	T G Milner Field	3pm
Bathurst '75 vs Belmore Hercules	Alec Lamberton	3pm
Penrith Panthers vs Auburn United	Penrith Park	3pm

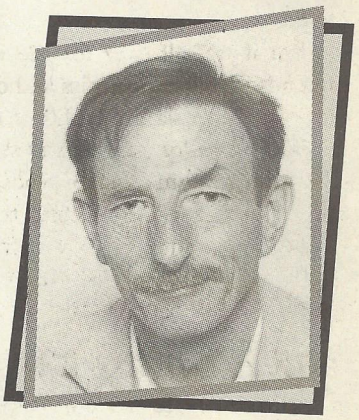
LEADING SCORERS

9	Louis Dounis (Hurst)
7	Eddie Briscoe (Stan)
5	Matthew Borg (Ryde), Scott Mutton (Bath),
4	Chris Sciberras (Grey), Adam Hagger (Hills), Con Anagnastopoulos (Stan)
3	Bernie Voloder (Hills),Danny Hinton (Pen), Richard Astone (Pen), Steve Butcher (Warr) , Robert Trajevski (Ill), Greg Baldock (MP), Deniz Keselik (Aub), Geo Kalogeras (Hurst)
2	Jim Boudaher (Ryde), Shane Coombes (Hills), Nihad Ahmed (F), Luke Allshorn (Hills), Jane Crkovski (Rock), Andy Stratford (Ryde), Mark Rooke (Bath), Allan Welsh (Ryde), Nathan Lieberman (Bel), Jim Melissourgos (Bel), Robbie Grubba (Fair), Grant Lee (East), Tim Newton (West), Darren Peters (Grey), Nabil Codmani (F), Michael Lardis (Stan)

First Division Weekend Review

PAUL GOODWIN REPORTS

HILLS LEAVE IT LATE AGAINST DOLPHINS



Back at Fred Caterson for the first time this season Hills registered another good victory against a raw Warringah Dolphins outfit.

The Dolphins were more than a match for their opponents for most of the game, but in truth it was a scrappy affair which at times flared up, resulting in a player from each side being dismissed.

Matt Weardon tested Terry Ide with a strong effort in the 9th minute, the veteran Hills' keeper just getting his finger tips to the shot on the turn and pushing it over the bar.

Good work on the left by Frank Mesiti led to a cross to the far right where 19 year old prospect Hassan El Khan let fly with a fierce drive which skimmed across the face of the Hills' goal.

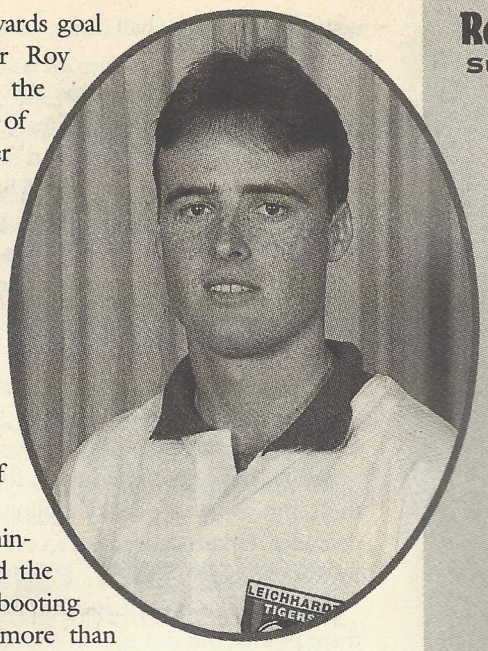
After Carson Cooper was sent off in the 52nd, leaving Hills a man short, Warringah began to push harder and when space was left in the middle Mesiti capitalised by powering the ball home from 25 yards out, after getting an unexpectedly clear sight of goal.

This had come in the 58th minute.

The Dolphins appeared to have the game in the bag until Mesiti was sent off in the 67th minute for fighting after taking exception to a tackle.

Hills then began their way back forcing a series of corners and getting numbers into the box. After some sustained pressure, Adam Moras found room on the edge of the box in the

71st and hit the ball towards goal where Dolphins' 'keeper Roy Papalia could only parry the ball. It landed at the feet of substitute Bernie Voloder who could not miss from the range of only a few metres.



Voloder did miss one some minutes later when he arrived in time to force the ball over the line only to be denied by a last gasp clearance from Warringah defender Jeff Lombardo.

In a frantic last few minutes Warringah weathered the storm well, John Sherry booting the ball away to safety more than once and Papalia saving well from David Moss.

But it was all over for the visitors when Voloder made amends for his earlier miss and capped a fine performance as a substitute by slamming home the winner in stoppage time.

Bob Casserley (above) had sent a long ball forward down the left for Adam Hagger whose cross from the byline was all Voloder needed to claim the points for his team.

The Dolphins tried a desperate rally at the end, but Robert Booy's shot was saved well by Ide to deny them a point they probably deserved.

WESTS STILL POINTLESS AT HAJDUK

Despite racing to a two nil lead against a depleted Fairfield Bulls at Hajduk Stadium on Saturday, West Wanderers could not press home the early advantage and went down 4-3 to the unpredictable visitors.

Fairfield had two players suspended, two who cried off due to work commitments and another couple who made a frantic late trip to the game, having planned for a Sunday fixture.

Fairfield had to double up a player from reserve grade and found themselves under much pressure in the opening minutes.

Trent Worrall lobbed from the left of the area and struck the right hand post, then tested the keeper with a similar shot seconds later.

A prolonged attack in the 22nd minute led to Tim Newton stabbing the ball home from close range after several shots had been blocked by third choice Bulls custodian Adam Esho.

When Rodrigo Salinas robbed Chris Giometti out on the touchline five minutes later he was able to exchange passes twice with Tim Newton as they advanced on goal, with Newton providing the inevitable finish.

The injection of fresh players lifted the Bulls who scored from a brave Robbie Grubba header after a good corner on the left swung over by Martin Battalla in the 31st.

Grubba then rose nicely to steer in another identical cor-

Rockdale City Suns Vs West Wanderers

SUNDAY – ROCKDALE ILINDEN SPORTS C – 3PM

David Aceski
Mohammed Sabra
Andrew Mchardy
Tony Dimanovski
Peter Dameski
Anthony Friedli
Jovan Ckorovski
Toni Salev
Spase Najdovski
Iain Macdonald
Nick Bejkovski
Zlatko Markovski
Mile Trpcevski
Mahmoud Saab
Nick Markovski
Michael Kotevski
David Martin

Victor Vella
Martin Cassar
Travis Reeve
Darren Camilleri
Daniel Adamcewicz
Tony Caruso
Johnathon Langan
Chris Senat
Liam Gibbs
Adrian Cachia
Jason Vella
Matthew Richardson
Thomas Higgins
James Mallia
Heath Borg
Tim Newton
Simon Cassar
Adam Mammoliti
Trent Worrall
Rodrigo Salinas

Warringah Dolphins Vs Mt Pritchard

SUNDAY – CROMER PARK – 5PM

Peter Cveticanin
Anthony Oppedisano
John Sherry
Danny Barbalace
Kelvin Foster
Ross Etherington
David Guzzo
Jun Miyamoto
Frank Mesiti
Roland Weber
David Zavaglia
Anthony Barbalace
Hassan El Khan
Nick Femia
Nick Beram
Mark Moult
Peter Cetrangolo
Anthony Surace
Frank Chirillo
Roy Papalia

Matt Darwen
Troy Davies
Willie Aliosi
Ante Zizic
Eric Lynch
Andrew Fajardo
Eddie Giraldo
Scott Spurway
Franco Cosentino
Greg Baldock
Marco Quintao
Paul Arancio
Scott Ferguson
Steve Aravena
Sime Krslovic
Brett Smyth

Eastern Suburbs Vs Hills United

SUNDAY – WENTWORTH PARK – 3PM

Les Bihari	Terry Ide
Gary Spivak	David Moss
Mathew Dihm	Laurence Hall
Gerry Gomez	Andrew Bow
Rudi Jerkovic	Adam Hagger
Mick Daniels	Bob Casserley
Kevin Watson	Darren Read
Grant Lee	Luke Allshorn
Mathew French	Kevin Lester
Steve McCombe	Justin Young
Chris Reading	Lawrie Mckinna
Yavos Ekinci	Jason Eager
Damien Shepherd	Paul Meighan
Ben Blake	Bernhard Voloder
Steve Lawrenson	Shane Coombes
Rick Oppedisano	John Faulkner
	Matthew Goodwin

Fairfield Bulls Vs Hurstville City Minotaurs

SUNDAY – NINEVEH FIELD – 3PM

Scott Allan	John Mylonas
Angelo Castiglione	Stellios Sampsonis
Mark Abi-Arrage	Gerry Mamolis
Robert Grubba	Peter Papoythis
Chris Giometti	Sam Panagakis
Nathan Cuneen	Tom Pontidas
Dragan Grujic	George Zabetakis
Keith Jeffs	Ricky Somboli
Jamie Nunez	Tony Mihaljevic
Fadi Chedid	George Kalogeras
Kamal Codmani	Dario Fernandez
Nabil Codmani	Ross Poulos
Rick Giometti	Manuel Sarikakis
Ian Stoddard	Jim Iliopoulos
Danny Georges	Louis Dounis
Darryn Carney	Jason Wells
Sasho Talevski	Peter Ifandoudas
Nihad Ahmed	Con Kristallis
Richard Varga	John Pelekanos
Jason Hallaby	Mathew Remondos

ner on the brink of half time to set up a closely contested second half.

On the hour Grubba was able to find Dragan Grujic on the left who sent Nabil Codmani away down the wing, the latter getting into the box and firing home from a first time shot angled cleverly past Vic Vella for the Fairfield lead.

Grubba then went careering away down the right in the 74th sending over a pinpoint cross for Sasha Talevski to head the ball against the crossbar. From the rebound Rick Giometti was able to slam the ball home from point blank range.

The Bulls squandered countless opportunities after Wests had been reduced to ten men by the sending off of Newton for a foul on the edge of the box.

Wests nearly punished them for the missed chances when they put away a penalty following a shock dismissal of defender Ian Stoddart after an off the ball incident, seen only by the referee.

Rod Salinas scored and left Fairfield to hang on for the three points, but not without some anxious moments.

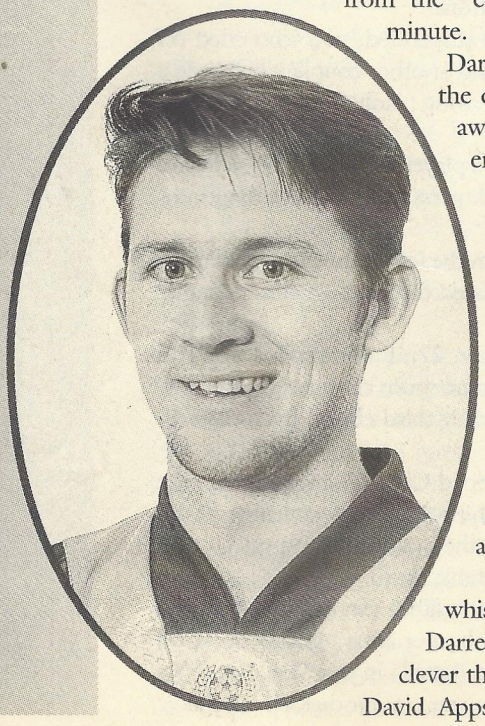
Fairfield coach Tony Dunn is looking to add to his squad and has one signing imminent and others in the pipeline.

Wests' mentor Vlado Mickovski has a skilful side which lacks experience, but displays plenty of potential which should be realised as the season wears on.

GREYSTANES BREAK THROUGH FOR FIRST WIN

In the deferred game at Ian McLellan on Saturday night Illawarra Lions could not manage to thwart a lively Greystanes, who overcame an early goal against them, the fourth game in a row when their opponents have got away to a quick start.

This time, however, they did well to get back in the game after a beautiful goal for the home side by Robert Trajcevski from the edge of the box in the 6th minute.



Darren Crittenden ran through the defence and slotted the ball away for a 17th minute equaliser.

Ex Greystanes junior and former Illawarra Lions' player, Darren Peters, gave his new side the lead in the 20th when he picked up the crumbs after an initial shot from Scott Cumming had rattled the bar, the ball barely crossing the Lions' line before it was hooked away by a defender to no avail.

Then, on the half time whistle, following a run by Darren Crittenden, inspired by a clever throw out by 'Stanes 'keeper David Apps, Michael Grass volleyed in

the third.

Six minutes after the restart Cumming benefitted from a dummy thrown by team-mate Todd Harper to notch the fourth when he knocked in an Andy Kidd cross from the right.

In the 70th Chris Jankulovski scored an individual goal for the Lions bringing it back to 4-2, but Peters had the last word heading in via ricochets off both posts after a short corner had been well worked by Darren Crittenden and Grass.

It was a win made all the more meritorious for Greystanes in that Kenny Bridge was absent and Chris Sciberras was replaced at half time suffering the effects of an ankle injury.

The Lions are patiently waiting for their very young side to gain experience and confidently predict that the best will be seen of them after April is over.

GUNNERS CAN ONLY FIRE BLANKS

With T G Millner still not ready to play on and their organized ground at Macquarie University ruled out by the Federation watchdogs, Ryde found themselves with time on their hands.

The unbeaten leaders sacrificed their advantage at the top of the table and must now play the catch up game in midweek.

STANMORE SAVOUR ANOTHER BIG WIN

Three brilliant goals in the first 23 minutes set Stanmore Hawks up for a convincing win over Rockdale Suns at Arlington on Sunday.

Michael Lardis steamed in at the near post to convert a precision cross from Jason Oldridge (left) in the 5th minute.

Rockdale bounced back capitalising on a high bouncing ball in the Stanmore goalmouth Mohammed Sabra getting the vital touch.

Within a few minutes Stanmore had regained the lead with Eddie Briscoe lobbing over the keeper after Burim Zajmi had played a clever crossfield lob over the heads of defenders which Briscoe read to perfection.

Oldridge got his head to the ball first to beat the goalie in the 23rd after a good build up down the left, getting the ball in off the post.

Oldridge deserved the goal for his constant hard workrate and all round contribution.

With a handy 3-1 lead at the break Stanmore relaxed a little and allowed Rockdale to pull one back in the 87th minute, veteran Peter Dameski's free kick finding the net.

Stanmore were without regular keeper Paul Kyprianou and stand in Michael Keats did a good job for them on his debut, but could do nothing to stop the powerful shot.

Getting back into stride in the time added on Stanmore extended their lead to five.

First Con Anagnastopoulos beat the offside trap and then the same player was on hand to cut the ball back from the byline for Briscoe to finish easily.

It was another big win for Stanmore who are still improv-

Bathurst '75 Vs Ryde City

SATURDAY – ALEC LAMBERTON – 3PM

Braydon Barcham
Paul Waine
David Judge
Adam Collins
Ken Barwick
Tony Clancy
Tony Judge
Mark Rooke
Shaun Dixon
Scott Mutton
Shane West
Adrian Renike
Simon David
Brent Griffiths
Matthew Markwick

Andrew Prentice
Paul Watkins
Chris Cowley
Richard Miranda
Andrew Stratford
Tim Stratford
Nils Johnsson
Jeff Kelly
Allan Welsh
Leo Ulloa
Matthew Borg
John McKie
Stephen Duval
Tim Gledhill
Danny Blanco
Alf Cirino
Jim Boudaher
Michael Masulans
Brad Glassock
Anthony Philp

Penrith Panthers Vs Belmore Hercules

SUNDAY – COOK PARK (ST MARYS) – 3PM

Troy Armstrong
Richard Stone
Peter Bennett
Jarod Bone
Bob Bosevski
Andrew Brockbank
Brett Buckpitt
Kaan Davies
Glen Donegal
David Fitzharris
Rowan Healey
Daniel Hinton
Daniel Margetts
Darren Mcentee
Chris Minol
Aaron Murray
Mick Patterson
Craig Perring
Rod Wilson
Jason Wyngaard

Angelo Rodic
John Cosentino
Manuel Pavlidis
Ari Zafiris
Jason Petrides
Marshall Soper
Jason Lal
John Tratselas
Jim Melissourgos
Paul Glekas
Nathan Livermore
Manos Sartzetakis
Paul Castillo
Perry Giannopoulos
Steve Lombardo
Gaston Herrara
Frank Laridet

Greystanes Vs Auburn United

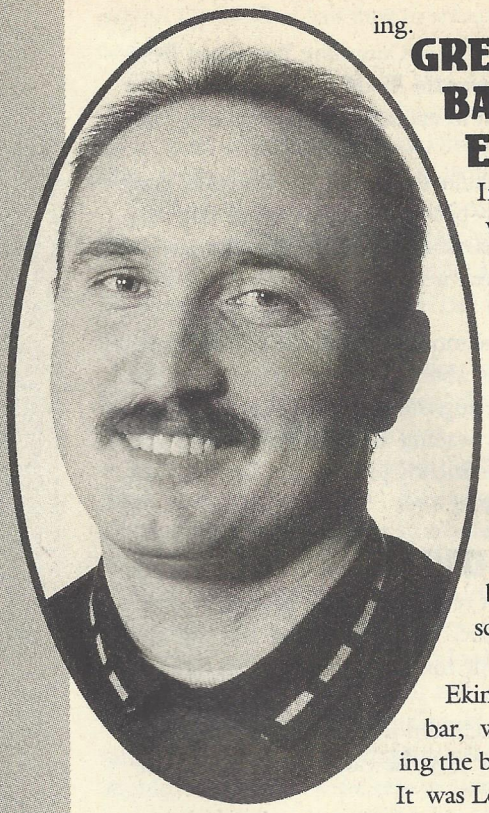
SUNDAY – COOK PARK (MT PRITCHARD) – 3PM

David Apps	Haydar Arslan
Kenny Bridge	Murat Kuru
Drew Cauchi	Russell Cachia
Darren Crittenden	Yecel Cetinay
Mark Crittenden	John Karavana
Scott Cumming	Erkin Elveren
Simon Doueihi	Ante Krezo
Michael Grass	Tolga Ors
Todd Harper	Mustafa Kadayifci
Bill Karkaletsis	Ugur Taskin
Scott Harris	Deniz Keselik
Andrew Kidd	Ali Senol
Darren Peters	Erkan Demir
Brad Racker	Hulusi Orhan
Craig Schofield	Robert Issa
Chris Sciberras	Unal Ogmen
Ryan Sciberras	Aydin Cetinay
Justin Thomas	Hakan Sevgin
Darren Waterson	K.S. Chang
Brendon Wilson	Roman Vedat

Illawarra Lions Vs Stanmore Hawks

SUNDAY – WENTWORTH PARK – 3PM

Anthony Avellino	Paul Kyprianou
Robert Ristevski	Eddie Briscoe
Roger Ristevski	Burim Zajmi
Robert Mihailov	Jason Oldridge
Alex Borsato	Nick A. Kartambis
Steven Nikolovski	George Maglis
Cane Dsepotovski	Theo Katsaros
Chris Jankulovski	Peter Kypreos
Pece Maksovic	Daniel Percy
Robert Trajevski	Harry Danilidis
Tony Mojanovski	Nick Boliantis
Nicholas Ryan	Con Anagnostopoulos
Tony Tancevski	Nick Kambounias
Filipo Gaio	Con Bakafoukas
Bale Kuzmanovski	Michael Lardis
Oliver Vrtkovski	Philip Cacciola
	Daniel Occhipinti
	Dean Heselhurst



ing.

GREYSTANES BATTLE WITH EASTS

Improving Greystanes were the latest to test the strong Eastern Suburbs outfit at Wentworth Park and must have been pleased in going close to getting a point for their efforts.

Easts should have had more than the one goal, but missed chances and the woodwork came between them and a bigger score.

Grant Lee and Yavos Ekinci both struck the cross-bar, with the latter also spooning the ball over from one yard out. It was Lee who ran onto a through ball in the 40th minute and scored the goal which settled the issue.

Greystanes did not look like really troubling Easts, it must be said, after a strong showing the previous day.

MOUNTIES STAY ON THE RIGHT TRACK

Once again Mount Pritchard got the points at Cook Park and this time it was just as close as all their other games, but they should have scored quite a few more than the two which sealed it for them.

With a strong wind making conditions difficult Mounties nevertheless got themselves an early lead via Greg Baldock, one of their regular scorers this year.

Baldock missed several one on one chances against Illawarra Lions' keeper Anton Avellino, but the keeper must be given credit for pulling off some top saves, all the same.

Baldock opened the scoring in the 13th minute when he volleyed in a ball crossed from a free kick taken by Franco Cosentino, meeting it at the far post.

Darren Iocca was making his first appearance for Mounties and combined well with Baldock up front, but missed one clear-cut heading opportunity.

Illawarra pressed on and earned a penalty when one of their players, Cane Despotovski, was dragged back by Vladan Radic, with a tug at the collar.

The spot kick was well placed to the left of Dragan Pupovac (above) by Delovski, making it 1-1 at the break. Boban Ivastanin played a return ball with Iocca before slamming in the second goal in the 53rd minute, making Mounties look relatively safe, but it was always tense.

BELMORE CEDE GROUND TO AUBURN

Auburn travelled to Ernie Smith Reserve for the second time inside eight days, but this time returned with a 2-0 win.

Having lost narrowly to the Minotaurs Auburn put paid to fellow nomads Belmore Hercules with goals coming from Deniz Keselik and Hulusi Orhan.

Belmore have won only one so far and are struggling to regain their former ranking, while Auburn remain a side which can explode into life at any time and present problems to the best of clubs.

They have been a thorn in the side of Belmore in the past and this was no exception.

BRIEF WEEKEND PREVIEW - ROUND SEVEN

There are two make-up games this Saturday, together with a scheduled game that day between Bathurst 75 and Ryde City at the country team's soccer centre.

The clubs doubling up are Stanmore, who take on Auburn at Arlington and Warringah, who meet Rockdale at Cromer Park.

Of the three games the most intriguing is the game in Bathurst where unbeaten Ryde, deprived of a game last weekend, will be anxious to get a result after their enforced lay-off.

They will also be in action on Tuesday next at Christie Park in the re-arranged match with Penrith.

Penrith themselves are at Cook Park St Marys to take on Belmore which could prove a tough task for the Panthers, now that the Marshall Soper coached side are reaching full match fitness.

Greystanes are at the other Cook Park, in Cabramatta West, for their match against Auburn, one in which they could do quite well.

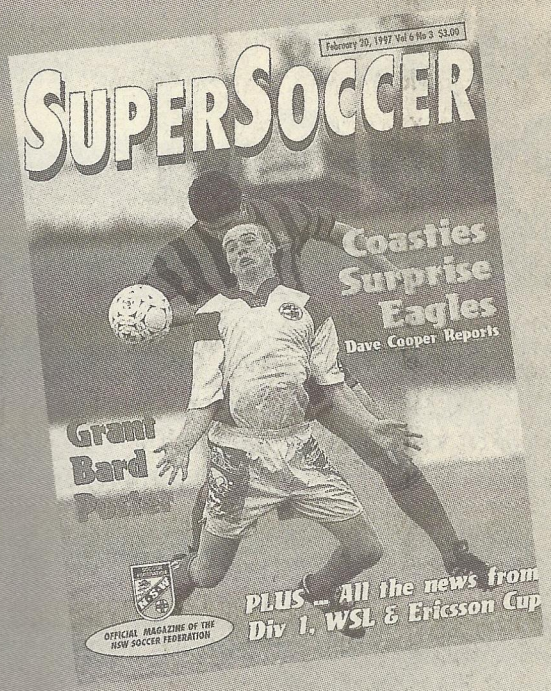
Warringah back up at Cromer on Sunday hoping to get back into the winning groove, this time over new leaders Mount Pritchard.

Fairfield could find the powerful Hurstville Minotaurs a trifle too hot to handle at Nineveh Field, while Illawarra have the advantage of freshness when they entertain Stanmore at Kembla Grange.

In other key fixtures Rockdale host West Wanderers at the Rockdale club's Ilinden Soccer Centre where the visitors should give a very good account, Eastern Suburbs winding up an excellent weekend of 1st Division fare with a home game with Hills United.

LEADING SCORERS

Louis Dounis has been scoring well, but hot on his heels now is Stanmore's English-born schemer Eddie Briscoe, with fewer games under his belt. Watch out also for Briscoe's free-scoring team-mate, centre-forward Con Anagnastopoulos, who is bound to keep doing well with the service Briscoe can provide him with.



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Super League Pre-Season Cup Tables

Southern Group

Teams	P	W	D	L	F	A	DIF	PTS
Sutherland Sharks	5	3	1	1	9	4	5	10
Macarthur Rams	5	2	2	1	10	6	4	8
St. George Saints	5	2	1	2	9	9	0	7
Leichhardt Tigers	5	1	3	1	5	6	-1	6
Canterbury M/Ville	5	2	0	3	7	10	-3	6
Bankstown City Lions	5	1	1	3	5	10	-5	4

Northern Group

Teams	P	W	D	L	F	A	DIF	PTS
Blacktown City Demons	5	4	1	0	11	4	7	13
Central Coast	5	4	0	1	11	4	7	12
Parramatta Eagles	5	2	2	1	15	8	7	8
Bonnyrigg W.E.	5	2	1	2	9	5	4	7
Sydney United	5	1	0	4	4	14	-10	3
Adamstown Rosebud	5	0	0	5	2	17	-15	0

* Macarthur awarded points against Bankstown who played an ineligible player

Division 1 Tables

First Grade

Teams	P	W	D	L	F	A	DIF	PTS
Mt. Pritchard	6	5	1	0	8	3	5	16
Hurst. City Minotaurs	6	5	0	1	16	3	13	15
Ryde City	5	5	0	0	13	3	10	15
Eastern Suburbs	6	4	2	0	7	3	4	14
Hills United	6	4	0	2	13	9	4	12
Stanmore Hawks	5	3	0	2	16	6	10	9
Bathurst '75	6	3	0	3	11	6	5	9
Fairfield Bulls	6	2	2	2	7	13	-6	8
Penrith Panthers	5	2	0	3	8	11	-3	6
Auburn United	5	2	0	3	6	11	-5	6
Rockdale City Suns	5	1	2	2	8	11	-3	5
Belmore Hercules	5	1	0	4	7	9	-2	3
Warringah Dolphins **	5	1	1	3	6	8	-2	3
Greystanes	6	1	0	5	10	22	-12	3
Illawarra Lions *	6	1	0	5	7	15	-8	0
West Wanderers	5	0	0	5	7	17	-10	0

Illawarra deducted 3 points ** Warringah deducted 1 point

Under 21's

Hills United	6	5	1	0	25	6	19	16
Hurst. City Minotaurs	6	5	1	0	17	3	14	16
Eastern Suburbs	6	5	0	1	31	5	26	15
Mt. Pritchard	6	4	1	1	24	8	16	13
Bathurst '75	6	3	3	0	7	3	4	12
Stanmore Hawks	5	3	0	2	16	6	10	9
West Wanderers	5	2	1	2	11	4	7	7
Greystanes	6	2	1	3	14	17	-3	7

Under 21's (cont')

Teams	P	W	D	L	F	A	DIF	PTS
Auburn United	5	2	1	2	9	15	-6	7
Belmore Hercules	5	2	0	3	4	10	-6	6
Ryde City	5	1	1	3	6	9	-3	4
Warringah Dolphins	5	1	1	3	6	10	-4	4
Penrith Panthers	5	1	0	4	8	16	-8	3
Illawarra Lions	6	1	0	5	7	30	-23	3
Fairfield Bulls	6	0	1	5	5	19	-14	1
Rockdale City Suns	5	0	0	5	1	32	-31	0

Under 18's

Teams	P	W	D	L	F	A	DIF	PTS
Hills United	6	5	0	1	13	8	5	15
Mt. Pritchard	6	4	2	0	20	5	15	14
Greystanes	6	4	1	1	15	10	5	13
Ryde City	4	4	0	0	11	4	7	12
Stanmore Hawks	5	4	0	1	10	9	1	12
Eastern Suburbs	6	3	1	2	16	8	8	10
Bathurst '75	6	3	1	2	15	9	7	10
Rockdale City Suns	5	3	0	2	16	4	12	9
West Wanderers	5	1	2	2	5	7	-2	8
Warringah Dolphins	5	2	0	3	11	8	3	6
Auburn United	5	1	2	2	5	6	-1	5
Hurst. City Minotaurs	5	1	1	3	7	11	-4	4
Belmore Hercules	5	1	0	4	4	11	-7	3
Penrith Panthers	5	1	0	4	2	10	-8	3
Fairfield Bulls	6	0	2	4	7	19	-12	2
Illawarra Lions	6	0	0	6	5	32	-27	0

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Right across the state there will be a short fall in the number of referees available for games to be covered. From State League in Sydney to an amateur game at Griffith all will suffer from a shortage of referees.

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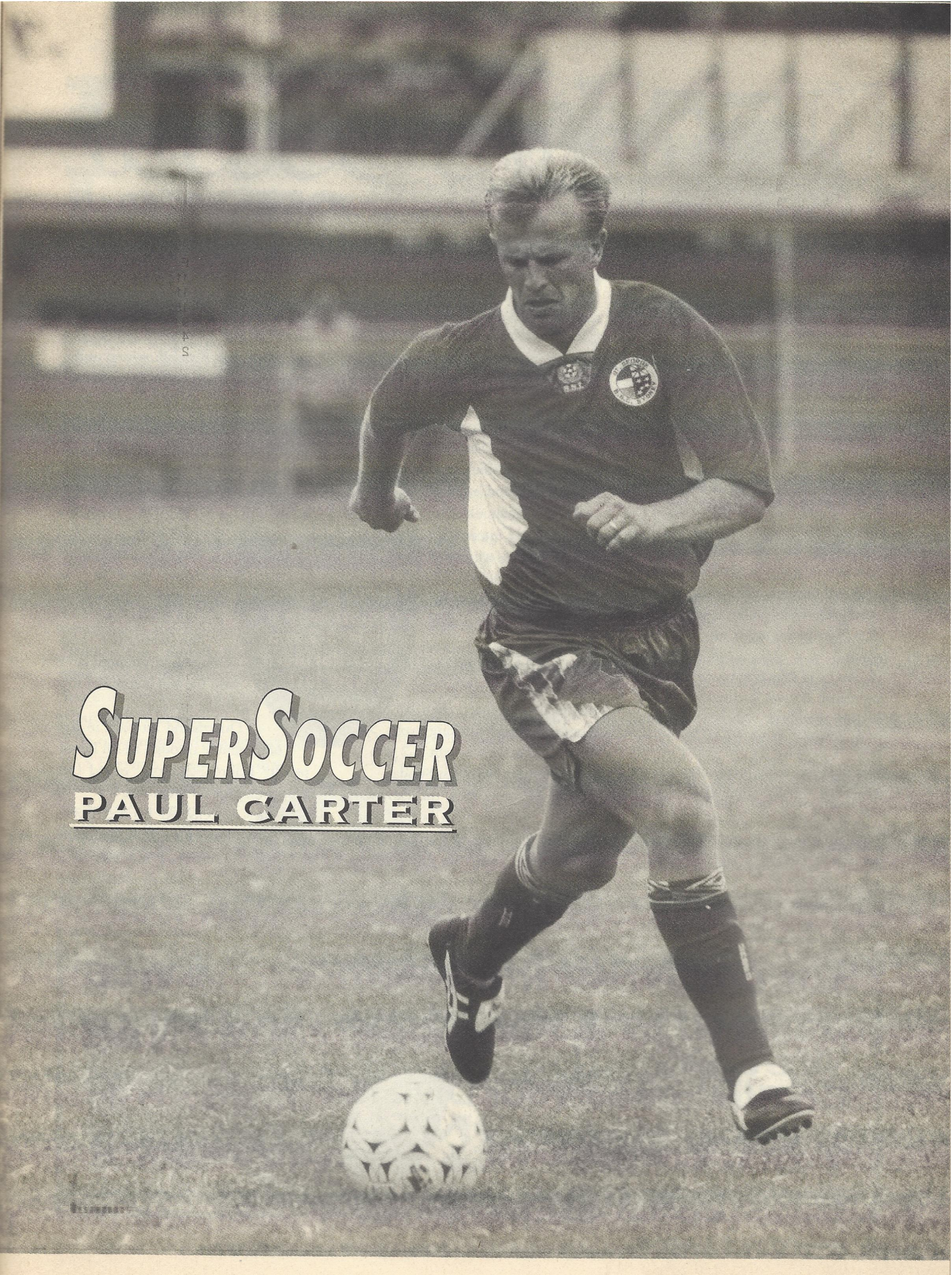

SuperSoccer

PAUL CARTER

Women's Soccer

THE OPENING ROUND OF THE NSW WOMEN'S STATE LEAGUE IS SHAPING UP AS ONE OF THE BEST ON RECORD. JANENE MAR REPORTS.

All the early signs indicate with Division One newcomers Sydney United as the side to watch.

The Lady Pumas have signed up an impressive array of talented youngsters in Kim Lembryk, Michelle Watson, Justine Fisher, Dalys Carmody, Yvette Jaeger, Jane Hornsby and Marlene Widders.

Having won the Mitchell Cup at Bathurst, the side has set its sites high.

Their first hitout sees them at home against fellow newcomers Penrith Panthers.

In other first round matches Northern NSW ITC tackle the NSW Institute of Sport, Gladesville Ravens face a tough first-up assignment against Marconi, Macquarie Districts go up against UWS Macarthur, Eastern Suburbs meet newly promoted Moorebank Sports, while Sutherland have a first round bye.

Division 2 should also produce some interesting first up matches with several new clubs of unknown quality keen to make a good start in the WSL.

Meanwhile, Queensland shot to the top of the national league North Conference ladder, taking maximum points with a tight 3-2 win over Northern NSW last Sunday.

The Maroons took the early lead after 11 minutes with striker Alicia Ferguson finishing off a good passing combination with an unchallenged strike from 12 metres on the left.

Northern NSW created numerous scoring opportunities for the remainder of the half, but were denied by the woodwork, poor finishing and some great point blank saves from Aussie goalkeeper Belinda Kitching.

"Meanwhile, Queensland shot to the top of the national league North Conference ladder, taking maximum points with a tight 3-2 win over Northern NSW last Sunday"

Early after the break, Northern found another gear and launched a sustained wave of attacking play, setting the home defence on the back foot.

The inevitable equaliser came in the 55th minute through a rare Kitching error.

The terrier-like Lisa Casagrande pounced and won the ball before striking into the open net.

Queensland hit back in the 68th minute through a Kim Revell penalty before Ferguson round out the scoring for the Maroons.

Earlier Queensland handed down NSW's first loss with a three nil thrashing, with Lindsey Whiddett, Lisa Dunne and Kim Revell netting the goals.

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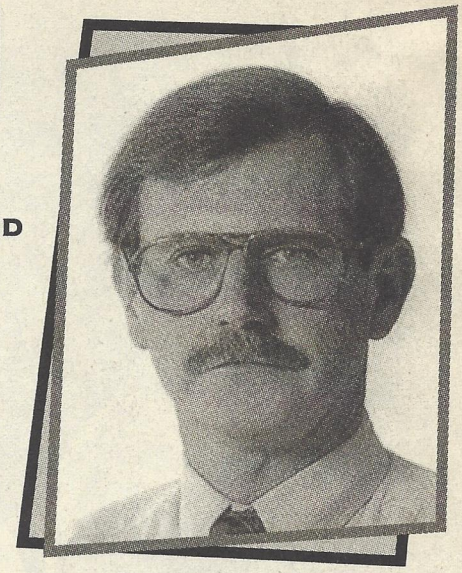
The National League

PETER KOGOY LOOKS AT THE GAMES AROUND THE COUNTRY.

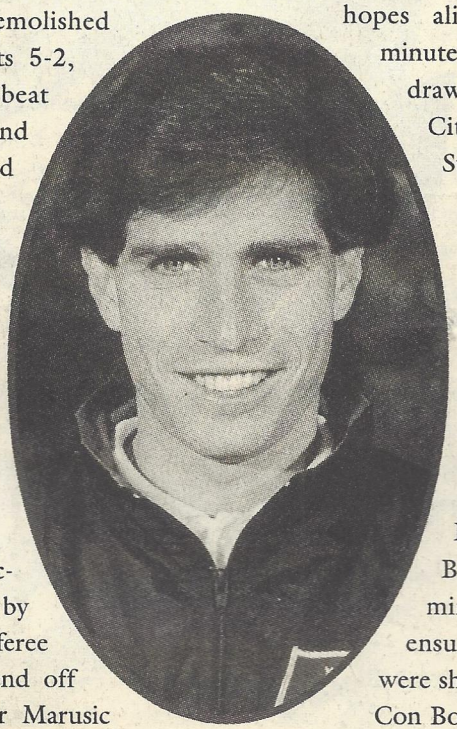


Striker David Zdrilic had to score a late goal to regain his place as leading scorer in the national soccer league when Sydney United thrashed West Adelaide Sharks 4-0 at Edensor Park.

Fellow striker Ante Milicic had joined Zdrilic at the top of the table on 15 goals after a sparkling double only to see his team-mate snatch the lead again.

United retained an eight point advantage at the top from Brisbane Strikers who moved into second place after beating Marconi 2-1 with South Melbourne third after its 4-0 romp over Newcastle.

In other results, Adelaide City and UTS Olympic played a 2-2 draw, Wollongong demolished Melbourne Knights 5-2, Collingwood beat Canberra 6-2 and Gippsland and Perth finished 1-1.



United, which became the first team to pass 50 goals this season, dominated the midfield and taught West Adelaide a tactical lesson.

However the victory was soured by the decision of referee Matt Breeze to send off midfielder Kresimir Marusic who had provided the lead up to the first three goals.

Marusic, who had virtually destroyed West Adelaide in the first half, was given a second yellow card annd dismissed 20 minutes into the second half for allegedly diving after a tackle.

Marusic began the goal spree in the 26th minute when his pinpoint long pass resulted in Ante Moric scoring the opening goal, Milicic added his double in the 37th and 49th minutes while Zdrilic waited until the 76th minute to score.

West Adelaide striker Jim Tsekinis had two good chances within two minutes in the first half but headed the first over the bar and hooked the second across the face of the goal.

Defender Scott Baillie kept David Mitchell's UTS Olympic's finals hopes alive with a last-minute equaliser in the draw with Adelaide City at Hindmarsh Stadium.

Adelaide City striker Michael Brooks twice gave the home team the lead with goals in the 17th and 45th minutes, but a goal from Derek Poimer and Baillie's 90th minute effort ensured the points were shared.

Con Boutsianis and Andy Vlahos both scored twice as the reborn Collingwood Warriors kept alive their slim finals hopes with a thumping victory over Mike Lyons' Canberra Cosmos.

The Warriors, under Zoran Matic's coaching, a team without money, supporters and it would seem a future, came from a goal behind at Victoria Park to register their third straight win and move into top six contention.

The Cosmos continued on from a shock win over Perth Glory to take up the running against Collingwood in the first half, taking the lead through Lachlan Armstrong in the 34th minute.

But the match swung Collingwood's way when the Warriors scored twice just before halftime and continued the run into the second half.

Veteran Ernie Tapai was a general in midfield for Collingwood and along with Kimon Taliadoros consistently won possession for the home side.

Brisbane Strikers, who went into the match with five losses from their last seven matches and with player-coach Frank Farina (left) on the bench, produced a remarkable second half recovery before relying on a Mark Battistin penalty to snatch vic-

SOUTHAMPTON'S ROBBIE SLATER (LEFT) ONE OF THE SOCCEROO STARS AGAINST MACEDONIA ... GIVES THE THUMBS UP TO UTS OLYMPIC'S DAVID MITCHELL

tory two minutes from time.

Sean Cranney made his comeback late in the second half for Brisbane after six weeks with an ankle injury to boost a side having to do without not just Farina but Andrew Brayshaw sidelined through suspension.

Defender Scott Baillie scored a dramatic last-minute equaliser with an overhead kick to give UTS Olympic a 2-2 draw against Adelaide City at Hindmarsh Stadium.

Baillie's shot squeezed through the hands of Socceroo goalkeeper Jason Petkovic to keep Olympic's faint national soccer league finals hopes flickering.

The Zebras looked set to rebound from last week's loss at Marconi as striker Michael Brooks gave it the lead twice after goals in the 17th and 45th minutes.

But Baillie's spectacular shot gave Olympic a lifeline and kept the unbeaten run of player-coach David Mitchell intact.

Substitute Derek Poimer had equalised in the 33rd minute but Olympic's push was hampered by injuries to star players Abbas Saad and Milan Blajogevic, who were replaced inside the first 23 minutes.

Mitchell started on the bench again despite missing the suspended Dave Barrett and Peter Tsekenis and came on in the final 30 minutes of play.

He brought in Ralph Bove and Adam Ciantar as starters but introduced Poimer and Steve Refenes early.

Brooks nodded in a cross from Dino Mennillo in the 17th minute for the opening goal.

City kept the heat on and Ciantar cleared a shot off the line in the 22nd minute from Kosta Salapasidis before keeper Tony Franken stepped in to save Olympic.

He beat away a 30-metre drive from Bradley Armour in the 24th minute and conceded another corner two minutes later when he parried a 20-metre shot from Brad Hassell.

Young Socceroo Brett Emerton produced a copybook cross to the far post in the 33rd minute which Poimer tapped home for the first equaliser.

Brooks put the home side ahead again on the stroke of half-time, deflecting a free kick from John Gibson past Franken.

"Baillie's shot squeezed through the hands of Socceroo goalkeeper Jason Petkovic to keep Olympic's faint national soccer league finals hopes flickering"

Adelaide City repeatedly caught Olympic on the counter after the interval and Hassell drove wide twice before finding Franken's leg in the way in the 72nd minute.

But the close range misses earlier in the second half came back to haunt the Zebras near the end.

Ciantar won a free kick on the right and Baillie connected sweetly with the cross to squeeze it past Petkovic.

Brisbane Strikers defied an injury crisis to snatch a thrilling 2-1 win over national soccer league high-flyer Marconi at Suncorp Stadium.

The Strikers produced a remarkable second half recovery before relying on a Mark Battistin penalty to snatch victory two minutes from time.

Ericsson Cup Draw Round 21

Saturday: Canberra Cosmos v Gippsland Falcons

Marconi Fairfield v Wollongong Wolves

Perth Glory v Sydney United

UTS Olympic v Brisbane Strikers

Sunday: Melbourne Knights v South Melbourne

Collingwood Warriors v Newcastle Breakers

West Adelaide v Adelaide City

LEADING GOALSCORERS

David Zdrilic (Sydney United)	16
Ante Milicic (Sydney United)	15
Bobby Despotovski (Perth Glory)	11
Rodney Brown (Brisbane Strikers)	9
Norman Tome (UTS Olympic)	9
Jimmy Tsekenis (West Adelaide)	9
Frank Farina (Brisbane Strikers)	8
Ice Kutlesovski (Melb Knights)	8
Adrian Cervinski (Melb Knights)	8
Andrew Harper (Marconi)	7

Touted early in the season as likely title contenders, the Strikers moved back into second place on the points ladder despite being without key players Alan Hunter and Sean Cranney for the past several weeks.

Cranney made his comeback late in the second half after six weeks with an ankle injury to boost a side having to do without captain-coach Frank Farina and Andrew Brayshaw sidelined through suspension.

Marconi, winner of its previous five encounters, opened the scoring after only 17 minutes through nippy midfielder Brad Maloney.

The visitors carved out several opportunities in the first half until the deadlock was broken when Maloney curled a powerful left foot shot past Brisbane keeper Clint Bolton following an impressive build up involving Zeljko Babic and Craig Foster.

"Pogliacomi produced an outstanding performance in the Marconi goal denying several chances for the homeside particularly from young sharpshooter Wayne Knipe who was denied on three occasions"

Striker Andrew Harper could have put the visitors further ahead one minute later but was rushed into error by Bolton in front of an open goal.

The Strikers hit back to dominate in the second half.

Tireless midfielder Troy Cranney sparked the revival in the 62nd minute with a brilliant solo run beating Marconi's Mark Robertson in a race to the ball and then outpacing defender Dominic Longo before firing a left foot shot between keeper Leslie Pogliacomi and the post.

Pogliacomi produced an outstanding performance in the Marconi goal denying several chances for the homeside particularly from young sharpshooter Wayne Knipe who was denied on three occasions.

Sean Cranney, who came on as a replacement for Matt Bell in the 65th minute, was on the park for only a few minutes before his appearance started to tell on the Marconi defence.

The winner for the Strikers came from one of Cranney's renowned crosses on the right flank which was ruled a penalty by Melbourne referee Gerry Connolly when it struck Malony in the hand two minutes from time.

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THE NATIONAL LEAGUE

RESULTS FROM ROUND 19 - Ericsson Cup

BRISBANE 2 (T Cranney 62m M Battistin pen 88m) d MARCONI 1 (B Maloney 17m) at Suncorp Stadium. Referee: G Connolly. Crowd: 4,729. GIPPSLAND 1 (M Foy 55m) drew with PERTH 1 (A McKenzie 61m) at Falcons Park. Referee: C Diomis. Crowd: approx 2000. WOLLONGONG 5 (S Dimoski 17m 27m A Ceccoli 21m N Josevski 58m C Luff 70m) d MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 2 (A Cervinski 73m A Marth 85m) at Brandon Park. Referee: B Hugo. Crowd: 3,358. SOUTH MELBOURNE 4 (V Coveny 48m N Orlic 57m I Kelic 82m W Spink 90m) d NEWCASTLE 0 at Breakers Stadium. Referee: G Leverton. Crowd: 4,556. COLLINGWOOD 6 (A Vlahos 40m 85m C Boutsianis 45m 55m K Taliadoros 90m D Milosovic og 67m) d CANBERRA 2 (L Armstrong 34m G Sorras 90m) at Victoria Park. Referee: W Dade. Crowd: 2000. SYDNEY UNITED 4 (A Moric 26m A Milicic 37m 49m D Zdrilic 76m) d WEST ADELAIDE 0 at United Sports Centre. Referee: M Breeze. Crowd: 4,758. ADELAIDE CITY 2 (M Brooks 17m 45m) drew SYDNEY OLYMPIC 2 (D Poimer 33m S Baillie 90m) at Hindmarsh Stadium. Referee: E Lennie. Crowd: 4,600.

ERICSSON CUP ROUND 19

TEAM	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Sydney Utd	13	4	3	52	25	43
Brisbane	11	2	7	40	29	35
Sth Melb	10	4	6	30	17	34
Marconi	10	3	7	32	26	33
Adelaide C	8	8	4	26	18	32
W Adelaide	9	2	9	30	36	29
Perth	8	4	8	36	33	28
Wollongong	7	7	6	30	31	28
UTS Olympic	6	6	8	28	32	25
Collingwood	6	7	7	26	33	25
Melb Knights	6	5	9	24	27	23
Newcastle	5	8	7	30	34	23
Gippsland	3	6	11	20	36	15
Canberra	2	5	13	22	47	11

SUPER LEAGUE PRE-SEASON CUP ROUND 5 - RESULTS

SOUTHERN GROUP - Macarthur Rams 3 (Telisman 48m, Reid 65m, Clune 67m) St. George Saints 1 (O'Shea 6m) Leichhardt Tigers 1 (Bourke 53m) Bankstown City Lions 1 (Zafirov 25m) Canterbury Marrickville 1 (Kotsopoulos 26m) Sutherland Sharks 0

NORTHERN GROUP - Blacktown City Demons 1 (Berry 93m) Central Coast 0. Parramatta Eagles 1 (Gunning) Bonnyrigg White Eagles 1 (Cannuli). Sydney United beat Adamstown Rosebud on forfeit

1ST DIVISION ROUND 6

FIRST GRADE - Round 6 - West Wanderers 3 (Newton, Salinas, Worrall) Fairfield Bulls 4 (Grubba 2, Codmani, R Giometti), Stanmore Hawks 5 (Briscoe 2, Sentas, Oldridge, Anagnostopoulos) Rockdale City Suns 2 (Sabra, Dameski), Mt. Pritchard 2 (Baldock, Ivastanin), Illawarra Lions 1 (Delovski), Hills United 2 (Voloder) Warringah Dolphins 1 (Mesiti), Eastern Suburbs 1 (Lee) Greystanes 0, Bathurst '75 1 (T Judge) Hurstville City Minotaurs 2 (Kalogeras, Mihaljevic), Belmore Hercules 0 Auburn United 2 (Keselik, Orhan), Ryde City vs Penrith Panthers P/P. Round 2 Deferred - Illawarra Lions 2 (Trajcevski, Jankulovski) Greystanes 5 (Peters 2, Crittenden, Grass, Cumming)

UNDER 21'S - Round 6 - West Wanderers 6 Fairfield Bulls 0, Stanmore Hawks 4 Rockdale City Suns 0, Mt. Pritchard 8 Illawarra Lions 0, Hills United 2 Warringah Dolphins 1, Eastern Suburbs 7 Greystanes 2, Bathurst '75 1 Hurstville City Minotaurs 1, Belmore Hercules 2 Auburn United 0, Ryde City vs Penrith Panthers P/P, Round 2 Deferred - Illawarra Lions 1 Greystanes 5

UNDER 18'S - Round 6 - West Wanderers 1 Fairfield Bulls 1, Stanmore Hawks 1 Rockdale City Suns 5, Mt. Pritchard 10 Illawarra Lions 1, Hills United 3 Warringah Dolphins 1, Eastern Suburbs 1 Greystanes 2, Bathurst '75 5 Hurstville City Minotaurs 1, Belmore Hercules 2 Auburn United 1, Ryde City v Penrith Panthers P/P, Round 2 Deferred - Illawarra Lions 2 Greystanes 4

ScoreBoard

SUPER LEAGUE PRE-SEASON CUP ROUND 5 - RESULTS

2ND DIVISION ROUND 6

First Grade - AC United 0 Liverpool City 1, Moorebank Sports 3 Hurstville ZSC 1, Gladesville United 1 Alexandria Warriors 0, Mt. Druitt Town 3 Uni Of NSW 0, Concord Juniors 2 Parramatta City 2, Sydney District 1 Dulwich Hill 1

Under 21's - AC United 2 Liverpool City 2, Moorebank Sports 3 Hurstville ZSC 0, Gladesville United 1 Alexandria Warriors 4, Mt. Druitt Town 2 Uni Of NSW 3, Concord Juniors 2 Parramatta City 4, Sydney District 2 Dulwich Hill 1

Under 18's - AC United 2 Liverpool City 4, Moorebank Sports 2 Hurstville ZSC 1, Gladesville United 1 Alexandria Warriors 1, Mt. Druitt Town 2 Uni Of NSW 0, Concord Juniors 1 Parramatta City 5, Sydney District 0 Dulwich Hill 2

4TH DIVISION ROUND 6

First Grade - United Eagles 0 Earlwood Hermes 2, Fairfield Kings 0 Springwood 5, Lithgow Workmen 0 Fraser Park 5, Marrickville 0 Sydney University 4, CSI Schofields 1 Mascot Kings 2, Balmain 0 Angels Liverpool 2, Maroubra United 2 St. Josephs 1

Second Grade - United Eagles 3 Earlwood Hermes 3, Fairfield Kings 0 Springwood 1, Lithgow Workmen 2 Fraser Park 1, Marrickville 2 Sydney University 0, CSI Schofields 5 Mascot Kings 0, Balmain 2 Angels Liverpool 2, Maroubra United 2 St. Josephs 1

5TH DIVISION ROUND 6

First Grade - Blacktown Premier 1 Bossy 6, AC Sydney 1 Camden Tigers 3, Kosciusko 6 Canterbury Bullets 1, Holy Cross 1 Nepean District 0, Auburn Star 2 Racing 3, Fairfield Eagles 1 AVA United 0, Sporting SSC 0 Homenetmen 2

Second Grade - Blacktown Premier 4 Bossy 0, AC Sydney 2 Camden Tigers 3, Kosciusko 0 Canterbury Bullets 3, Holy Cross 4 Nepean District 2, Auburn Star 4 Racing 4, Fairfield Eagles 1 AVA United 4, Sporting SSC 1 AVA United 4.

SUPER YOUTH LEAGUE

U13 - Gladesville Hsby 2 Blacktown City 1, Warringah Dolphins 3 Marconi Fairfield 0, Central Coast 1 Parramatta Eagles 2, Wollongong City 3 Sutherland Sharks 5, Illawarra Lions 0 Sydney Olympic 3, Southern Districts 3 Adamstown Rosebud 0, Sydney United 0 Macarthur Rams 4

U14 - Gladesville Hsby 1 Blacktown City 2, Warringah Dolphins 2 Marconi Fairfield 0, Central Coast 0 Parramatta Eagles 4, Wollongong City 2 Sutherland Sharks 2, Illawarra Lions 2 Sydney Olympic 4, Southern Districts 1 Adamstown Rosebud 2, Sydney United 1 Macarthur Rams 1

U15 - Gladesville Hsby 0 Blacktown City 4, Warringah Dolphins 1 Marconi Fairfield 1, Central Coast 0 Parramatta Eagles 1, Wollongong City 4 Sutherland Sharks 0, Illawarra Lions 1 Sydney Olympic 10, Southern Districts 2 Adamstown Rosebud 1, Sydney United 1 Macarthur Rams 3

U16 - Gladesville Hsby 1 Blacktown City 2, Warringah Dolphins 2 Marconi Fairfield 2, Central Coast 0 Parramatta Eagles 2, Wollongong City 0 Sutherland Sharks 0, Illawarra Lions 0 Sydney Olympic 5, Southern Districts 2 Adamstown Rosebud 0, Sydney United 3 Macarthur Rams 2

DIVISION 1 YOUTH LEAGUE

U13 - AC United 1 Bankstown Assoc 4, Southern Branch 2 CSI Schofields 0, Penrith Panthers 0 Eastern Suburbs 0, Bonnyrigg White Eagles 1 Nepean Assoc 2, St. George Saints 4 Granville Assoc 1, Ku-Ring-Gai Assoc 0 Leichhardt Tigers 4, Blacktown Assoc 1 Rockdale City Suns 1

U14 - AC United 4 Bankstown Assoc 0, Southern Branch 1 CSI Schofields 2, Penrith Panthers 0 Eastern Suburbs 4, Bonnyrigg White Eagles 2 Nepean Assoc 3, St. George Saints 2 Granville Assoc 1, Ku-Ring-Gai Assoc 0 Leichhardt Tigers 3, Blacktown Assoc 0 Rockdale City Suns 1

U15 - AC United 1 Bankstown Assoc 3, Southern Branch 0 CSI Schofields 1, Penrith Panthers 4 Eastern Suburbs 1, Bonnyrigg White Eagles 0 Nepean Assoc 2, St. George Saints 5 Granville Assoc 0, Ku-Ring-Gai Assoc 1 Leichhardt Tigers 9, Blacktown Assoc 4 Rockdale City Suns 1

U16 - AC United 1 Bankstown Assoc 0, Southern Branch 5 CSI Schofields 0, Penrith Panthers 0 Eastern Suburbs 0, Bonnyrigg White Eagles 2 Nepean Assoc 2, St. George Saints 2 Granville Assoc 0, Ku-Ring-Gai Assoc 0 Leichhardt Tigers 7, Blacktown Assoc 3 Rockdale City Suns 2

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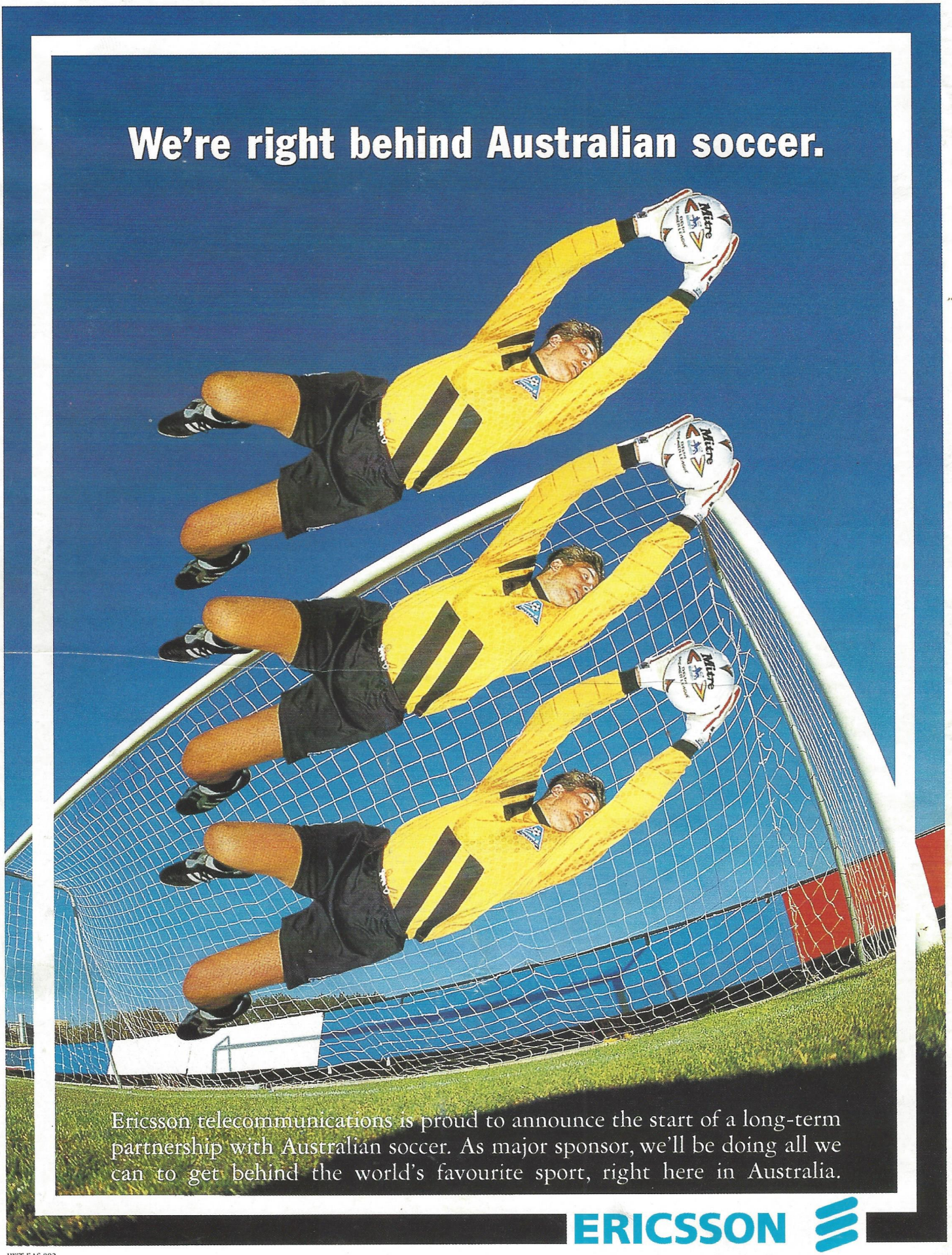
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